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ABSTRACT

To respond to the needs of place-bound adult students, an increasing emphasis has been placed on off-campus credit activities in the state of Illinois. During academic year 1995, 52,609 off-campus courses were offered in the state, with the Illinois Community College System accounting for 78.6% of these offerings and independent colleges accounting for 14%. In Illinois, 10 regional consortia of colleges and universities have been formed to coordinate plans and help serve the educational needs of different geographical areas of the state. The consortia have begun to develop a statewide telecommunications-based instructional delivery system to expand statewide access to underserved areas. A fall 1995 survey of telecommunications activity for the consortia indicated that between fall 1994 and 1995, the number of courses offered over interactive telecommunications had more than doubled among consortia statewide. One of the major obstacles to the use of telecommunications technologies in the delivery of off-campus courses has been the complex nature of regulations and pricing structures, but advances in telecommunications technologies are encouraging further coursework sharing across district boundaries. Detailed tables of course offerings and enrollments are included. Appendixes provide a list of higher education institutions in Illinois, a map of regional consortia, and a list of consortia members. (TGI)

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Illinois Community College Board
Springfield

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SERVING UNDERSERVED AREAS THROUGH OFF-CAMPUS COURSEWORK AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(Joint Report to the Illinois Board of Higher Education and Illinois Community College Board)

During the 1980s and 1990s, increased emphasis has been placed on off-campus credit activities designed to respond to the needs of place-bound adult students. This report presents information on off-campus credit activities in Illinois during academic year 1995 (summer 1994 through spring 1995) for public universities, private colleges and universities, and, for the first time, community colleges. For public universities and private colleges and universities, this report provides comparisons with academic year 1990 off-campus activities. The key findings of this analysis are:

- Over 52,000 off-campus courses were offered by public and private colleges and universities in academic year 1995, generating over 500,000 course enrollments, and representing approximately the equivalent of 50,500 annual full-time students.

- Courses delivered by interactive telecommunications represented less than two percent of the off-campus offerings in academic year 1995, but offerings through the Illinois telecommunications network are expected to double in 1996 and continue to expand as the system is developed.

- Community colleges accounted for almost 80 percent of all off-campus courses and provided a broad array of courses at off-campus sites within their districts, responding to the needs of individual students and to the needs of employers.

- Independent and proprietary Illinois institutions and out-of-state institutions increased offerings at off-campus locations between 1990 and 1995, while the offerings of public universities declined slightly. Collectively, these institutions provided expanded baccalaureate completion opportunities and professional advancement opportunities through graduate programs.

The Board of Higher Education has adopted policies in two areas -- workforce preparation and underserved areas -- which have a direct impact on off-campus activities occurring in Illinois. The Board recognized the importance of providing expanded access to higher education at times and places convenient to an increasingly older and place-bound group of learners. Three major developments have occurred during the first half of the 1990s: an increasing recognition of the importance of education and training in preparing new members of the workforce and keeping current the skills of those already in the workforce; the establishment of regional consortia of community colleges, public universities, independent, proprietary, and out-of-state institutions to coordinate higher education offerings within regions and across the state; and the expansion of existing and establishment of new technologies to support the objectives and goals identified by the Illinois Community College Board and the Board of Higher Education. Complementing these developments has been the Board of Higher Education's Priorities, Quality, and Productivity and the Illinois Community College Board's Accountability initiatives which call for strengthening academic quality and productivity and using resources effectively.

1995 Off-Campus Offerings in Illinois

During academic year 1995, a total of 52,609 credit courses were offered off-campus by Illinois community colleges, public universities, independent and proprietary Illinois institutions, and out-of-state institutions (A list of institutions providing data for this report are found in Appendix A). These offerings had 505,602 course enrollments or the equivalent of approximately 50,500 full-time students.[1] The average statewide enrollment was 9.6 per off-campus course. Community colleges provided 78.6 percent of these courses while public universities and private institutions provided the remainder. Table 1 presents the distribution of off-campus coursework statewide by institutional sector.

Table 1

1995 OFF-CAMPUS COURSES AND ENROLLMENTS BY SECTOR

			Percent of Total	
	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment
Community Colleges	41,350	358,730	78.6%	71.0%
Public Universities	3,004	48,026	5.8	9.5
Independent Institutions	7,347	85,122	14.0	16.8
Proprietary Institutions	265	5,012	0.5	1.0
Out-of-State Institutions	643	8,712	1.2	1.7
Totals	52,609	505,602	100.0%	100.0%

SOURCE: 1995 Survey of Off-Campus Offerings

In response to the Committee to Study Underserved Areas' recommendations, ten regional consortia of colleges and universities were established to identify the highest priority programs, and coordinate the development of plans to serve effectively educational needs in different geographical areas of the state. Community college district boundaries were used to form the consortia; a map of the regional consortia is found in Appendix B. The formation of the ten regional consortia of colleges and universities has provided forums for colleges and universities to coordinate efforts and cooperate with each other. The ten consortia have begun to mature and significant accomplishments have been demonstrated. Colleges and universities have used the regional consortia to respond to regional needs and coordinate programming. Institutions, both public and independent, have shared resources, including facilities, staff, and interactive telecommunications systems for the betterment of their regions. Colleges and universities also have improved services through joint activities such as cooperatively developed programs and

[1]In both the 1990 and the current survey, institutions were asked to provide course enrollment, not unduplicated headcount, information about their off-campus students. For example, a student who took two different off-campus courses in each of the three terms covered by the surveys -- summer, fall and spring -- is herein reported as six "enrollments," not as one student. Similarly, where the same course was offered by the institution in each of the three terms, it is recorded as three courses.

common catalogs of course offerings that serve their regions' geographic area. These consortia have helped to lessen "turf wars" and the resulting adverse public reaction to them, and have advanced the Board of Higher Education's policy on achieving better coordination among public, independent, proprietary, and out-of-state institutions and the Board's policy on sharing resources within the higher education community.

As Table 2 shows, off-campus activities are broadly distributed across regions served by consortia. The Chicago region along with four suburban regions represent 54.3 percent of all off-campus enrollments although the population of these regions represents over 70 percent of the total population of the state. Conversely, the rural regions have a relatively high percentage of off-campus enrollments, suggesting that institutions are using off-campus institutions to serve geographically dispersed populations.

Since the adoption of the policies recommended by the Committee on Underserved Areas and the formation of the regional consortia, the state has begun to make a significant investment in the development of a statewide telecommunications-based instructional delivery system. Based on a request of the Illinois Community College Board, the Board of Higher Education's capital budget recommendations for fiscal years 1994 through 1996 included $15.0 million annually for a statewide telecommunications initiative. Funds were appropriated to support this initiative in fiscal years 1994 and 1995; the fiscal year 1996 request is supported by the Governor and is pending before the General Assembly. The two appropriations for the telecommunications initiative have funded the installation of 277 sites. One half of the funds appropriated for 1995 were not released to the consortia until September of 1995 causing a delay in the installation and initiation of approximately 80 sites.

Table 2

1995 OFF-CAMPUS COURSES AND ENROLLMENTS BY REGIONAL CONSORTIA

			Telecommunications	
Region	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment
Chicago	3,744	54,625	17	30
Fox Valley	3,918	49,486	135	593
North Suburban	5,286	70,348	101	190
South Metropolitan	4,147	41,349	111	2,312
West Suburban	4,004	58,792	142	561
Central Illinois	6,402	51,273	135	890
Illinois Prairie	2,100	24,012	73	446
Southern Illinois	5,517	39,913	33	435
Southwestern Illinois	6,092	56,158	26	150
Western Illinois	11,399	59,646	108	781
Totals	52,609	505,602	881	6,388

SOURCE: 1995 Survey of Off-Campus Offerings

The use of interactive telecommunications-based distance education technology has not yet had significant impact on the delivery of off-campus courses statewide. During 1995, less than 2 percent of all off-campus activity utilized telecommunications technology.[2] Partially due to the time of the flow of funding, the statewide telecommunications initiative has had a limited impact on off-campus telecommunications enrollments and offerings up to this point. Other factors are contributing to the gradual initial growth in the use of telecommunications for instructional delivery. As with the introduction of any new technology, there is a "learning curve" and a period of adaptation is underway. Acquiring and installing necessary equipment takes time. Additional training and professional development for faculty and staff is needed. Similarly, students need to gain acceptance of new instructional delivery systems. The information on telecommunications-delivered instruction in this report will serve as a useful baseline to monitor progress as the system is implemented and matures.

In October 1995, the Board of Higher Education and Community College Board's staffs surveyed the ten regional consortia to obtain updated distance learning programmatic and utilization information. The consortia reported that in October 1995, 197 of the 277 sites funded were operational. Frequency of usage during the hours available during the first week of October ranged from a low of zero hours to a high of 48 hours per week, although 14 sites had just become operational in October. This same survey gathered data on past courses and planned telecommunications-mediated classes for spring 1996. These data are shown in Table 3.

Table 3

GROWTH IN TWO-WAY INTERACTIVE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM COURSES

Region	System Initiation	Courses Offered			
		Fall 94	Spring 95	Fall 95	Spring 96[1]
Chicago	August 1994	10	11	7	21
Fox Valley	1988	49	46	49	54
North Suburban	August 1994	13	19	46	70
South Metropolitan	January 1995	0	15	18	40
West Suburban	November 1994	0	12	11	30
Central Illinois	August 1994	43	40	56	61
Illinois Prairie	August 1993	20	24	55	72
Southern Illinois	July 1994	9	16	26	43
Southwestern Illinois	October 1994	1	19	30	68
Western Illinois	July 1994	15	26	36	40
All Regions		160	228	334	499

[1]Planned 1996 course offerings

SOURCE: 1995 Consortium Video Utilization Survey

[2]"Telecommunications" refers to instruction in which two-way interaction between participants is possible (e.g., two-way video and audio television or one-way television combined with two-way telephone communications.)

This fall 1995 survey of telecommunications activity shows that between fall 1994 and fall 1995 the number of courses offered over interactive telecommunications had more than doubled among consortia statewide. It is estimated that by the end by spring 1996, approximately 500 courses will be delivered using interactive telecommunications systems. This represents a 212 percent increase in the utilization of telecommunications in course delivery between fall 1994 and projected spring 1996. During the academic year ending in spring 1995, courses offered through telecommunications represented a small proportion of all off-campus offerings. However, information obtained from the regional consortia indicates that offerings have increased substantially as the telecommunications system has developed and are expected to continue to increase as the system matures.

As with most technology applications, the distance learning initiative faces a number of challenges that the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Community College Board, regional consortia, and individual institutions will work to resolve and to improve the distance learning network. The challenges facing the distance learning initiative also confront other technology applications, whether they be computer-based data applications, the Internet, or satellite technology. These challenges include:

- Rapidly changing technologies provide significant opportunities for improvement but challenge equipment and operating budgets to stay current with upgrading needs;
- Curricular applications must be developed to support the use of technology to improve teaching and learning;
- Connectivity must be improved to allow for inter-consortia and interstate connections;
- Faculty and staff training is required for expanded utilization of the technology and improvements in instruction; and,
- The cost of operating technology must be reduced, particularly in the area of telecommunications charges.

One of the major obstacles to more effectively utilizing telecommunications technologies in the delivery of off-campus courses is the complex nature of telecommunications regulations and pricing structures. Specifically, the costs of using the existing telecommunications infrastructure maintained by both local and long-distance carriers varies widely across the state and places constraints on the ability of some schools, colleges and universities to effectively use technology in support of educational objectives. Table 4 displays the results of a special spring survey conducted by the Illinois Community College Board of monthly costs for telephone line services per site within regional consortia. These costs do not include internal costs to institutions (e.g., salaries, maintenance, commodities, etc.).

Table 4

TELECOMMUNICATION MONTHLY LINE CHARGES
MARCH 1995

Region	No. Sites	Monthly Costs Per Site[1] Low	High
Chicago	14	$182	$1,115
Fox Valley	20	908	4,580
North Suburban	9	600	600
South Metropolitan	14	610	1,464
West Suburban	8	404	1,325
Central Illinois	18	550	6,980
Illinois Prairie	25	466	2,900
Southern Illinois	10	400	2,300
Southwestern Illinois	15	634	3,864
Western Illinois	9	499	2,433
Range Statewide		$182	$6,980

[1]In most cases, costs represent 24 hour per day, dedicated access to telecommunications lines.

SOURCE: 1995 Line Charge Survey

The Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board recently formed a task force with representatives from the higher education community, including Heartland Community College, the Illinois Institute of Technology, Carl Sandburg College, Western Illinois University, Kishwaukee College, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Northwestern University, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Waubonsee Community College, and the College of DuPage, as well as representatives of the Illinois State Board of Education, the State Library, and the Department of Central Management Services to address operating cost issues. The task force has developed a number of strategies that call for work on several fronts (legislative, regulatory, budget, and new technologies) to assist users of technology in lowering operating costs. The spring 1995 legislative session demonstrated the progress that can be made when state agencies and institutions work cooperatively. The passage of Public Act 89-0141 requires the Illinois Commerce Commission to allow telephone companies to offer special rates for interactive educational video applications for the first time. As a result of this Act, Ameritech will introduce the first special rates for interactive video for educational institutions in January 1996.

1995 Community College Off-Campus Offerings

Community colleges served over 500 cities with 41,350 off-campus credit courses, or 78.6 percent of all such courses offered during academic year 1995, with 358,730 course enrollments, or 71.0 percent of all off-campus enrollments. Table 5 shows that the community colleges in the Chicago and suburban regions accounted for 46.7 percent of the community

college off-campus enrollments statewide. (Appendix C presents Table 5 by community college districts within regional consortia boundaries.) With over half of the offerings, rural areas of Illinois received a relatively greater proportion of community college sponsored off-campus instruction. Chicago and the suburban areas occupy a relatively small geographic area and are densely populated. Rural districts may find it necessary to offer more off-campus coursework to meet the needs of residents in a larger geographic region.

Community colleges have designated geographic boundaries for their primary service regions. Hence, the colleges maintain policies restricting other community colleges from offering coursework in their primary service area. When a college does not offer courses in a particular area, it may enter into a cooperative arrangement with another district to assure that the needs of district residents are met. Cooperative course offerings are particularly appropriate for courses with low enrollments or highly specialized courses. The regional consortia arrangements and advances in telecommunications technologies are encouraging further coursework sharing across district boundaries. As telecommunications diminishes the constraints of geography, it is anticipated that additional sharing of coursework between and among districts and regional consortia will occur.

Table 5

1995 COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFF-CAMPUS COURSES AND ENROLLMENTS

Region	Courses	Enrollment	Telecommunications Courses	Telecommunications Enrollment
Chicago	2,896	42,956	0	0
Fox Valley	3,083	37,581	109	533
North Suburban	2,267	30,446	5	69
South Metropolitan	2,937	24,851	5	18
West Suburban	1,967	31,632	4	79
Central Illinois	5,165	39,789	79	351
Illinois Prairie	1,670	17,262	56	341
Southern Illinois	5,366	38,075	32	434
Southwestern Illinois	5,571	48,713	19	98
Western Illinois	10,428	47,425	59	236
Total	41,350	358,730	368	2,159

SOURCE: 1995 Survey of Off-Campus Offerings

Just over one half (52.4 percent) of community college off-campus enrollments were in baccalaureate/transfer and occupational courses. Nearly one-third of the enrollments were in pre-collegiate education which includes adult basic, adult secondary, and English-as-a-second-language. Combined general studies and vocational skills (continuing education) enrollments accounted for the remaining 18.9 percent of community college off-campus course enrollments. As shown in Table 6, three fields together represented nearly 60 percent of the baccalaureate/transfer courses and 56.2 percent of enrollments: arts, humanities, and social sciences; business; and trades and industrial.

It appears that the statewide goal of providing training and retraining to sustain an up-to-date workforce is being addressed since much of the community college off-campus activity is in occupational and continuing education. Pre-collegiate coursework also contributes to providing students with the knowledge and abilities necessary to gain marketable skills. Table 6 presents the disciplinary areas in which all community college off-campus coursework occurred.

Table 6

1995 COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BY DISCIPLINE

			Telecommunications	
Discipline	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment
Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences	4,582	59,519	180	1,066
Sciences and Mathematics	1,337	12,650	30	103
Business	4,075	29,798	57	297
Education	372	4,728	17	179
Computer Science and Business Information Services	1,063	8,130	8	25
Engineering and Engineering Technology	1,150	10,870	1	3
Health Professions	1,411	16,313	5	27
Protective Services	361	5,293	15	54
Trades and Industrial	3,994	16,275	1	2
Other Occupational and Professional Fields	2,243	16,254	28	203
Personal Enrichment and Development	695	8,130	3	9
Disciplinary Total	21,283	187,960	345	1,968
Other Credit Courses				
Pre-Collegiate	14,638	102,933	18	164
Continuing Education	5,429	67,837	5	27
Grand Total	41,350	358,730	368	2,159

SOURCE: 1995 Survey of Off-Campus Offerings

Off-campus credit courses provided by community colleges through interactive telecommunications represented approximately one percent of all off-campus activity. The vast majority of courses and enrollments offered through telecommunications were in the baccalaureate transfer and occupational areas.

Public University and All Private Institution Off-Campus Offerings

In 1990, 58 institutions reported off-campus coursework. A total of 54 public, independent, proprietary, and out-of-state institutions reported off-campus coursework in Illinois in academic year 1995. All twelve public universities offered off-campus courses in 1995 as did 26 Illinois independent and proprietary institutions and 16 out-of-state institutions. Thirteen in-state independent institutions either ceased off-campus offerings between the two years, or did not report data, while four independent institutions initiated off-campus offerings. In 1990, 12 out-of-state institutions indicated off-campus offerings in Illinois and by 1995 16 such institutions

were indicating off-campus offerings. However, within this group of out-of-state institutions, seven offered coursework in both years indicating that while five out-of-state institutions had ceased operating in Illinois, nine new out-of-state institutions began operating in the state between the two years.

Illinois independent institutions continue to provide the greatest number of off-campus courses and off-campus enrollments, followed by public universities, out-of-state institutions, and proprietary schools. This pattern mirrors the results found in 1990. With the exception of independent institutions, the percentage increase in the number of courses offered was exceeded by the increase in enrollments. This may indicate that productivity, if measured by enrollments per course, improved on the part of public universities, proprietary institutions, and out-of-state institutions while it has declined for independent institutions.

Table 7

OFF-CAMPUS ENROLLMENTS
OF PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS
IN 1990 AND 1995

	1990		1995		Percent Change	
	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment
Public Universities	3,062	47,645	3,004	48,026	-1.9%	0.8%
Independent Institutions	5,879	73,726	7,347	85,122	25.0	15.5
Proprietary Institutions	223	3,791	265	5,012	18.8	32.2
Out-of-State Institutions	438	5,361	643	8,712	46.8	62.5
Total	9,602	130,523	11,259	146,872	17.3%	12.5%

Source: 1990 and 1995 Surveys of Off-Campus Offerings

Access to educational opportunities expanded between 1990 and 1995 as shown in Table 7. The number of courses offered off-campus by public universities and all private institutions increased by 17.3 percent, from 9,602 to 11,259. During this same period, the number of enrollments in off-campus courses increased by 12.5 percent from 130,523 to 146,872 while total headcount enrollment both on- and off-campus for public universities and all private institutions increased only about one percent.

The greatest percentage increase was found in courses and enrollments offered by out-of-state institutions where the number of courses increased by 46.8 percent and the number of enrollments increased by 62.5 percent, although these institutions represent a small proportion of total offerings. Over half of the 16 out-of-state institutions are operating in Illinois under agreements with Illinois higher education institutions, primarily community colleges, or employers. For example, Columbia College of Missouri has worked with both McHenry County College and Highland Community College to provide baccalaureate completion opportunities to community college graduates and Gallaudet University offers specialized courses for teachers of hearing-impaired students in cooperation with Illinois universities. The smallest changes between these two academic years were reported by the public universities in Illinois which

showed a decline of 1.9 percent in courses offered off-campus and an enrollment increase of less than one percent. Moreover, public university course offerings as a proportion of all offerings among these institutions dropped from 31.9 percent to 26.7 percent; enrollments declined from 36.5 percent to 32.7 percent during this period.

As shown in Table 8, off-campus courses of public, independent, proprietary, and out-of-state institutions were unevenly distributed across the state with the majority of off-campus activities (70.6 percent) taking place in the suburbs of Chicago and in the City of Chicago proper.

Table 8

1990 AND 1995 OFF-CAMPUS ENROLLMENT BY REGIONAL CONSORTIA:
PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

	1990		1995		Percent Change	
Region	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment
Chicago	1,180	16,459	848	11,669	-28.1%	-29.1%
Fox Valley	728	9,750	835	11,905	14.7	22.1
North Suburban	2,683	37,505	3,019	39,902	12.5	6.4
South Metropolitan	1,135	10,248	1,210	16,498	6.6	61.0
West Suburban	1,604	20,233	2,037	27,160	27.0	34.2
Central Illinois	951	16,183	1,237	11,484	30.1	-29.0
Illinois Prairie	290	4,610	430	6,750	48.3	46.4
Southern Illinois	124	1,865	151	1,838	21.8	-1.4
Southwestern Illinois	352	5,041	521	7,445	48.0	47.7
Western Illinois	509	8,441	971	12,221	90.8	44.8
Statewide Programs	46	188	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Totals	9,602	130,523	11,259	146,872	17.3%	12.5%

SOURCE: 1990 and 1995 Surveys of Off-Campus Offerings

Off-campus coursework and enrollments of public, independent, proprietary, and out-of-state institutions increased in all regions of the state with the exception of Chicago where the number of off-campus courses declined by 28 percent and enrollment declined by 29 percent. Two Chicago institutions with substantial offerings in the 1990 survey did not respond to the 1995 survey and may account for much of the difference. In both the central and southern Illinois regions, the number of course offerings increased although there was an overall decline in the number of enrollments in off-campus courses. It appears that access to educational services is expanding in the larger, less populated geographic areas of the state.

Public, independent, proprietary, and out-of-state institutions offered 62.7 percent of their off-campus courses outside regional consortia boundaries in which the home campuses were located. These courses accounted for 63.2 percent of their entire off-campus enrollments. Of Illinois institutions, private and proprietary institutions are more likely to offer off-campus coursework outside of the community college and regional consortia in which they are located. Illinois

public universities offered only 40.1 percent of their courses outside their home regional consortia. Enrollment in these courses accounted for only 36.1 percent of public university off-campus enrollments. It appears that public universities have focused their off-campus offerings in their immediate regions.

As part of the Priorities, Quality, and Productivity initiative in 1994 and 1995, institutions were asked to examine their off-campus programs, to eliminate duplication among institutions, and to work with other institutions and regional consortia to promote cooperative offerings and the sharing of resources. Among the ten public universities that reported on their examinations of off-campus offerings in 1994 and 1995, five reported no change in offerings, three indicated that they planned to expand, and two universities made significant reductions in their offerings. Previous studies called attention to the duplication of off-campus offerings by public universities. The survey of academic year 1995 offerings shows that there are eight community college districts in which six or more of the universities are offering instruction.

In both academic years 1990 and 1995, institutions were asked to provide the number of courses and enrollments in off-campus courses according to whether they were strictly undergraduate offerings, offerings which could be applied at either the undergraduate or graduate levels, and offerings exclusively applicable for graduate credit. Academic year 1995 witnessed the greatest enrollment increases in courses offered for undergraduate/graduate credit. Undergraduate/graduate courses increased by 67.7 percent while enrollment in such courses increased by 85.7 percent. Undergraduate courses increased by 13.8 percent between the two academic years although enrollments in these courses increased by less than two percent. Graduate courses and enrollments increased by 9.3 percent and 5.7 percent, respectively, between the two years. These data are shown in Table 9.

Although Table 9 does not provide sufficient information to determine whether baccalaureate degree completion opportunities for placebound students have been expanded as the Board's policies encourage, between 1990 and 1995 the Board has approved over 80 new off-campus sites for baccalaureate programs or new programs for existing off-campus sites. Almost 150 new sites or new programs at the graduate level were approved during the same period.

Table 9

1990 AND 1995 PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES AND
PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OFF-CAMPUS OFFERINGS BY INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL

Level	1990		1995		Percent Change	
	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment
Undergraduate	3,901	49,217	4,438	50,122	13.8%	1.8%
Undergraduate/Graduate	1,011	13,533	1,695	25,126	67.7	85.7
Graduate	4,690	67,773	5,126	71,624	9.3	5.7
Totals	9,602	130,523	11,259	146,872	17.3%	12.5%

SOURCE: 1990 and 1995 Surveys of Off-Campus Offerings

Table 10 shows that public, independent, proprietary, and out-of-state institutions have focused off-campus offerings in education, primarily graduate courses for practicing teachers, and

business -- fields that provide professional development opportunities. Enrollments in computer science and engineering and engineering technology have also increased.

Table 10

1990 AND 1995 PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS
OFF-CAMPUS OFFERINGS BY FIELD OF STUDY

	1990		1995		Percent Change	
Field of Study	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment
Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences	1,932	26,630	1,804	26,229	-6.6%	-1.5%
General Studies and Liberal Arts	99	1,423	801	10,162	709.1	614.1
Sciences and Mathematics	471	5,970	359	5,216	-23.8	-12.6
Business	1,620	26,588	2,088	32,275	28.9	21.4
Education	2,516	42,559	3,161	46,899	25.6	10.2
Computer Science & Business Info Srvcs	530	4,860	708	6,471	33.6	33.1
Engineering and Engineering Technology	573	3,117	555	3,860	-3.1	23.8
Health Professions	607	6,543	451	5,596	-25.7	-14.5
Protective Services	163	2,458	140	2,436	-14.1	-0.9
Trades and Industrial	216	2,756	532	2,260	146.3	-18.0
Other Occupational and Professional Fields	821	6,768	601	4,804	-26.8	-29.0
Personal Enrichment and Development	54	851	59	664	9.3	-22.0
Totals	9,602	130,523	11,259	146,872	17.3%	12.5%

SOURCE: 1990 and 1995 Surveys of Off-Campus Offerings

Table 10 also lends support to the conclusion that baccalaureate degree completion opportunities have increased somewhat since 1990. The growth in courses and enrollments in the area of general studies and liberal arts indicates such a conclusion since many, if not most programs in this area, are found at the baccalaureate level.

In every broad disciplinary area where there was an overall increase in the number of courses offered off-campus between 1990 and 1995, the percent increase in enrollment was not as great and in some cases there was a decline in the enrollments. Conversely, in areas where there was a decline in the number of courses offered, there was a less substantial decline in enrollments. These two trends indicate that productivity, if measured by enrollments per course has declined over the past five years.

Summary and Next Steps

Statewide policies call for expanding access through off-campus programs with priority on increasing opportunities for placebound students to complete baccalaureate degree programs. Off-campus offerings should also meet the needs of individuals and employers for training, retraining, and continuing development. The Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board have encouraged cost-effective program delivery by supporting

formation of regional consortia and development of interactive telecommunications delivery systems.

This report has shown that community colleges, public, independent, proprietary, and out-of-state colleges and universities provide significant opportunities through off-campus coursework. Community colleges offer approximately 80 percent of all off-campus courses, primarily within their district. Large and rural districts make extensive use of off-campus offerings to serve district residents. Between 1990 and 1995, opportunities provided by public universities and independent institutions increased across the state but particularly in previously underserved downstate regions. Illinois-based independent institutions increased their offerings during this period while some public universities increased their off-campus activities and others cut back resulting in a slight decrease in combined offerings. This report also shows that out-of-state institutions have increased activity in Illinois and many are operating in cooperation with Illinois higher education institutions or employers. While progress has been made, further efforts are needed to provide broader access to baccalaureate completion opportunities. Continuing efforts will also be needed to assure that the training and education needs of individuals and employers are met.

Regional consortia have proven to be effective in promoting cooperative development of telecommunications systems, shared use of resources, and expanded educational opportunities. To assist with needs assessment and planning, the staffs of the Illinois Community College Board and Board of Higher Education will provide each consortium with a more detailed report of the results of the survey of off-campus offerings. Working with consortia, the staffs will provide analyses for colleges and universities to assist with further refinement of off-campus priorities, expanding baccalaureate completion programs, enhancing workforce preparation initiatives, and expanding access, particularly in underserved areas of the state. The staffs will also continue to work with the consortia to refine planning and program approval processes.

In academic year 1995, courses delivered by telecommunications represented a small proportion of all off-campus offerings, but more and more offerings are becoming available as new sites become operational. More than twice as many courses will be offered in spring 1996 as in spring 1995. During the coming months, the staffs will continue to work with the regional consortia and institutions toward reducing the costs of transmission of interactive telecommunications courses. Efforts will also be directed toward accommodating rapidly changing technologies, promoting curricular innovation, and assuring connectivity among higher education institutions and with the groups and organizations they serve.

APPENDIX A

Community Colleges

Belleville Area College
Black Hawk College
City Colleges of Chicago
- Richard J. Daley College
- Kennedy-King College
- Malcolm X College
- Olive-Harvey College
- Harry S Truman College
- Harold Washington College
- Wilbur Wright College

Danville Area Community College
College of DuPage
Elgin Community College
William Rainey Harper College
Heartland Community College
Highland Community College
Illinois Central College
Illinois Eastern Community Colleges
- Frontier Community College
- Lincoln Trail College
- Olney Central College
- Wabash Valley College

Illinois Valley Community College
Joliet Junior College
Kankakee Community College
Kaskaskia College
Kishwaukee College
College of Lake County
Lake Land College
Lewis and Clark Community College
Lincoln Land Community College
John A. Logan College
McHenry County College
Moraine Valley Community College
Morton College
Oakton Community College
Parkland College
Prairie State College
Rend Lake College
Richland Community College
Rock Valley College
Carl Sandburg College
Sauk Valley Community College
Shawnee Community College
South Suburban College of Cook County
Southeastern Illinois College
Spoon River College
State Community College
Triton College
Waubonsee Community College
John Wood Community College

Public Universities

Chicago State University
Eastern Illinois University
Governors State University
Illinois State University
Northeastern Illinois University
Northern Illinois University
Western Illinois University
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Illinois at Springfield
University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign

Independent Institutions

Aurora University
Bradley University
College of St. Francis
DePaul University
Elmhurst College
Eureka College
Illinois Benedictine College
Illinois Institute of Technology
Lake Forest Graduate School of Management
Lewis University
Lincoln Christian College
Loyola University of Chicago
MacMurray College
McKendree College
Montay College
National-Louis University
North Central College
Olivet Nazarene University
Roosevelt University
Rosary College
School of the Art Institute
Saint Xavier University
Trinity International University-Divinity
Trinity International University-Trinity College
University of Chicago

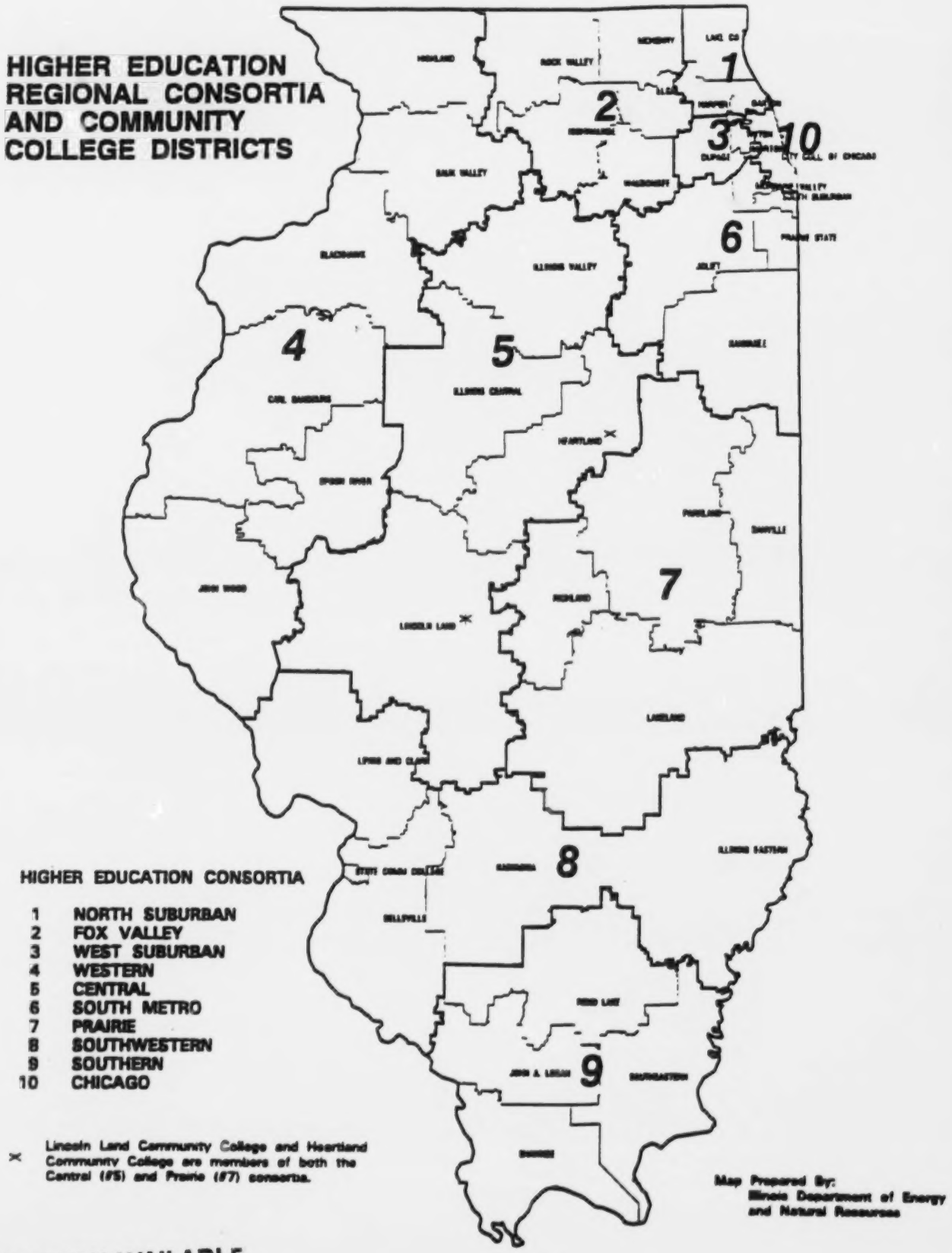
Proprietary Institutions

Keller Graduate School of Management

Out-of-State Institutions

Center for Innovation in Education (California)
Columbia College (Missouri)
Concordia University - Wisconsin
Covenant Theological Seminary (Missouri)
Gallaudet University (Washington, D.C.)
Lindenwood College (Missouri)
Loma Linda University (California)
Loyola University of New Orleans (Louisiana)
Mount Saint Clare College (Iowa)
Northwood Institute (Michigan)
Nova University (Florida)
Palmer College (Iowa)
Park College (Missouri)
University of Iowa
Viterbo College (Wisconsin)
Webster University (Missouri)

APPENDIX B



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APPENDIX C

Illinois Community College Board

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFF-CAMPUS COURSES AND ENROLLMENTS BY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GROUPED WITHIN REGIONAL CONSORTIA

				Telecommunications	
		Courses	Enrollment	Courses	Enrollment
50800	**Chicago Consortium**	2,896	42,956	0	0
50901	Elgin	682	12,602	39	239
52301	Kishwaukee	193	2,335	6	7
52801	McHenry	333	4,295	13	116
51101	Rock Valley	762	4,706	0	0
51601	Waubonsee	1,113	13,643	51	171
	Fox Valley Consortium	3,083	37,581	109	533
51201	Harper	394	6,983	0	0
53201	Lake County	773	12,489	5	69
53501	Oakton	1,100	10,974	0	0
	North Suburban Consortium	2,267	30,446	5	69
52501	Joliet	933	8,705	0	0
52001	Kankakee	1,129	6,208	1	4
52401	Moraine Valley	353	4,019	0	0
51501	Prairie State	90	1,262	1	7
51001	South Suburban	432	4,657	3	7
	South Metropolitan Consortium	2,937	24,851	5	18
50201	DuPage	1,366	19,680	3	62
52701	Morton	92	2,486	1	17
50401	Triton	509	9,466	0	0
	West Suburban Consortium	1,967	31,632	4	79
54001	Heartland	203	2,474	35	134
51401	Illinois Central	1,092	11,438	37	217
51301	Illinois Valley	720	4,394	0	0
52601	Lincoln Land	3,150	21,483	4	0
	Central Illinois Consortium	5,165	39,789	76	351
50701	Danville	230	1,813	1	12
51701	Lake Land	786	8,875	26	172
50501	Parkland	415	4,495	8	33
53701	Richland	239	2,079	24	124
	Illinois Prairie Consortium	1,670	17,262	59	341
53001	Logan	674	9,981	0	0
52101	Rend Lake	935	4,102	0	0
53101	Shawnee	2,579	12,658	10	32
53301	Southeastern	1,178	11,334	22	402
	Southern Illinois Consortium	5,366	38,075	32	434
52201	Belleville	1,485	13,559	13	42
52900	Illinois Eastern	2,561	19,393	3	33
50101	Kaskaskia	938	10,004	2	16
53601	Lewis & Clark	514	5,024	1	7
60101	State Community	73	733	0	0
	Southwestern Consortium	5,571	48,713	19	98
50301	Black Hawk	7,351	23,458	11	60
51901	Highland	483	4,655	4	14
51801	Sandburg	1,031	5,948	6	17
50601	Sauk Valley	156	1,359	0	0
53401	Spoon River	577	8,291	11	32
53901	Wood	830	3,714	27	113
	Western Illinois Consortium	10,428	47,425	59	236
	STATEWIDE TOTAL	41,350	358,730	368	2,159

SOURCE OF DATA: 1995 Survey of Off-Campus Offerings